

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-09
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-02
TRSE-00 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 IO-14 JUSE-00 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-05 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-20 /165 W

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P 241700Z MAY 78

FM AMCONSUL HALIFAX

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2174

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS HALIFAX 0256

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS CA US

SUBJECT: US-CANADIAN FISHERY IN GULF OF MAINE

1. IN TELCON MAY 24 WITH NOVA SCOTIA DEPUTY FISHERIES
MINISTER JOHN MULLALLY HE TOLD ME THAT CANADIAN EAST
COAST CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE WOULD BE MEETING WITH ITS
US COUNTERPART COMMITTEE ON MAY 25 AND THAT FOLLOWING
WOULD BE AMONG ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BY CANADA:

A. CONCERN OVER ACTION BY NEW ENGLAND FISHERY
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL IN RAISING TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCHES
FOR US FISHERMEN OF COD AND HADDOCK WITHOUT PRIOR
CONSULTATION.

B. CONCERN THAT US IS APPARENTLY NOT IN A POSITION
TO TAKE REGULATORY ACTION AGAINST INCREASED FISHING
EFFORTS BY US FISHERMEN FOR SCALLOPS AND POLLOCK
IN GULF OF MAINE.

2. COMMENT: MAIN PURPOSE OF MY CALL TO MULLALLY

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WAS NOT TO GET INFO ON TOPICS TO BE RAISED AT MEETING
OF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES (WHICH IN ANY EVENT WILL
HAVE COME AND GONE BY THE TIME THIS CABLE GETS FULL
DISTRIBUTION) BUT TO SOUND HIM OUT ON ANY LIKELIHOOD
OF A "FISH WAR" ON THE EAST COAST WHEN GOC FISHERY
MINISTER LEBLANC S MAY 26 DEADLINE (HALIFAX 0242)
ARRIVES. HE INDICATED TO ME THAT HE BELIEVED THAT

LEBLANC WAS FOCUSSED ON THE WEST COAST SALMON FISHERY AND THAT IF ANY "FISH WAR" ERUPTED, IT WOULD BE CONFINED TO THAT COAST.

3. WITH RESPECT TO THE MATTERS OF CURRENT CONCERN TO CANADIAN EAST COAST FISHERMEN, HE DID NOT SEEM GREATLY CONCERNED AND EXPRESSED HIS OPINION THAT THEY SEEMED TO BE THE SORT OF RECURRING PROBLEMS THAT SHOULD BE READILY RESOLVABLE WITH GOODWILL ON BOTH SIDES. ONE PARENTHETICAL NOTE: MULLALLY SEEMED GENUINELY PUZZLED ABOUT THE AGENCY OR AGENCIES WHICH MAKE US FISHERY POLICIES. "WHO," HE ASKED, "IS THE BOSS-- THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE OR THE REGIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCILS?" AS FAR AS HE COULD DETERMINE, THE NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL CALLS THE SHOTS FOR US FISHERMEN IN THE GULF OF MAINE. IF THIS IS INDEED THE FACT, HE WONDERED WHAT THE POINT IS OF FEDERAL-LEVEL NEGOTIATIONS ON FISHERIES BETWEEN THE GOC AND THE USG. WITH NO KNOWLEDGE OF EITHER THE REAL OR THE THEORETICAL DIVISION OF AUTHORITY BETWEEN THE US AGENCIES, I TOLD HIM I D PASS ON THAT QUESTION. END COMMENT.
MOORE

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